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MISSILES

WASHINGTON (AP)-SEN. SYMINGTON SAID TODAY THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY HAD TOLD CONGRESS ITS PRESENT ESTIMATES FOR RUSSIAN LONG-RANGE MISSILES IN MID-1960 AND MID-1961 ARE HIGHER THAN ITS ESTIMATES FOR A YEAR AGO.

SYMINGTON SAID THAT IN VIEW OF THIS IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE ADMINISTRATION COULD ARGUE THAT A NEW METHOD OF INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES HAD PLACED THIS COUNTRY IN A MORE COMFORTABLE POSITION WITH RESPECT TO SOVIET MISSILES.

THE MISSOURI SENATOR, A FORMER AIR FORCE SECRETARY, MADE THE STATEMENT AT A SESSION OF THE SENATE SPACE COMMITTEE AND PREPAREDNESS SUB-COMMITTEE. ADM. ARLEIGH BURKE, CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS, HAD JUST TOLD THE SENATORS THAT U.S. ESTIMATES ON RUSSIAN INTERCONTINENTAL BALLISTIC MISSILES HAD BEEN REVISED BECAUSE IT WAS "OBVIOUS THEY (THE RUSSIANS) WERE NOT USING THEIR MAXIMUM CAPABILITIES."

SYMINGTON SAID ALLEN DULLES, HEAD OF THE SUPER-SECRET CIA, GAVE THE ESTIMATES TO THE COMMITTEES AS THE FIRST WITNESS IN THE CURRENT SERIES OF HEARINGS.

BURKE COMMENTED THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO DISCUSS THE MATTER IN OPEN SESSION SINCE THE FIGURES WERE SECRET. SYMINGTON SAID THAT OF COURSE HE DID NOT WANT TO DISCLOSE THE EXACT ESTIMATES, BUT THAT HE WAS MAKING THE POINT THAT ESTIMATES NOW ARE HIGHER THAN A YEAR AGO.

THE ADMIRAL COMMENTED THAT PERHAPS THEY HAD DIFFERENT FIGURES. THE TWO MEN HUDDLED WHILE THEY COMPARED THEIR SHEETS.

AFTER THE SUBJECT WAS DROPPED EXCEPT THAT SYMINGTON SAID HE STOOD ON HIS PREVIOUS REMARKS.

SYMINGTON LATER TOLD NEWSMEN THAT HE WAS REFERRING TO "WHAT THEY WILL HAVE TO HIT US WITH" IN TALKING ABOUT DULLES' ESTIMATES ON RUSSIAN ICBMS.

HE SAID THE CIA ESTIMATES NOW WERE HIGHER THAN A YEAR AGO NOT ONLY FOR MID-1960 AND MID-1961, BUT ALSO FOR MID-1962.

90-ROUND WITH SEN. BUSH, THREATENED TO RELEASE PERCENTAGE FIGURES GIVEN BY DULLES IF ANYONE DISPUTED WHAT HE SAID ABOUT RUSSIAN LONG RANGE MISSILE ESTIMATES.

"IN A DEMOCRACY," HE SAID, "THE PEOPLE HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW."
NO ONE TOOK UP SYMINGTON'S OFFER AND HE DID NOT DISCLOSE THE PERCENTAGE.

THIS WAS AFTER BUSH HAD PROTESTED THAT TOO MUCH MILITARY INFORMATION WAS BEING AIRED PUBLICLY. BUSH LINKED THIS WITH A CHARGE THAT "TOO MUCH POLITICAL CONSIDERATION HAS GOTTEN INTO THIS WHOLE THING."